

Application Serial No. 09/857,841
Amendment dated 13 February 2006
Reply to Office Action of 13 September 2005

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-5 (Canceled)

Claim 6 (Currently amended): A method for enhancing production of a desired protein as part of a fusion protein in a plant cell or a plant which method comprises ~~inserting a first nucleic acid upstream of a second~~ providing a nucleic acid which encodes a fusion protein to a plant cell or plant, wherein the fusion protein comprises ~~to form a fused nucleic acid wherein said first nucleic acid encodes a~~ the protein of SEQ ID NO: 4 linked to the ~~and wherein said second nucleic acid encodes said desired protein and further wherein said fused nucleic acid encodes said fusion protein~~ the desired protein is heterologous to the protein of SEQ ID NO:4.

Claim 7 (Original): The method of claim 6 wherein the carboxy terminus of said protein of SEQ ID NO:4 forms a peptide linkage with the amino terminus of said desired protein.

Claim 8 (Currently amended): The method of claim 6 wherein said ~~first nucleic~~ nucleic acid comprises ~~bases~~ nucleotides 6-47 of SEQ ID NO:3.

Claim 9 (Currently amended): The method of claim 6 wherein said ~~fused~~ nucleic acid is under the control of a CaMV 35S promoter.

Claims 10-14 (Canceled)

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Claim 15 (Currently amended): A nucleic acid vector ~~capable of transforming a plant cell wherein said vector comprises~~ comprising a plant-expressible promoter operably linked to a nucleic acid which encodes a fusion protein wherein said fusion protein comprises a the protein of SEQ ID NO:4 linked to a protein of interest, wherein the protein of interest is heterologous to the protein of SEQ ID NO:4.

Claim 16 (Original): The vector of claim 15 wherein said protein of SEQ ID NO:4 is linked in a peptide linkage at its carboxy terminus to the amino terminus of said protein of interest.

Claim 17 (Currently amended): The vector of claim 15 wherein said nucleic acid is under the control of a CaMV 35S promoter.

Claim 18 (Currently amended): The vector of claim 15 wherein said vector comprises ~~bases~~ nucleotides 6-47 of SEQ ID NO:3.

Claim 19 (Canceled)

Claim 20 (Original): A plant cell or a plant comprising the vector of claim 15.

Claims 21-22 (Canceled)

Claim 23 (Previously presented): An isolated nucleic acid comprising SEQ ID NO:3.

Claim 24 (Previously presented): An isolated nucleic acid consisting of SEQ ID NO:3.

Claims 25-32 (Canceled)

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Claim 33 (New): The method of claim 6, wherein the plant cell or plant is transfected with the nucleic acid.

Claim 34 (New): The method of claim 6, wherein the plant cell or plant is transformed with the nucleic acid.

Claim 35 (New): A plant cell or a plant comprising the vector of claim 16.

Claim 36 (New): A plant cell or a plant comprising the vector of claim 17.